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Potential Campaign Architectures and Mission design challenges for near-term international Mars Sample Return mission concepts

AAS 19-583

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Introduction

- MSR mission studies have been studied since the Viking landings in 1978
- This presentation introduces the current international MSR study architecture
- Introduces the subjects of the other 5 papers presented at this conference that represent work done for this architecture and study for a potential mission

The MSR coordinated papers



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- The JPL MSR study team members have written 6 papers for this conference
- They describe the notional MSR architecture (this one) and take on some of the difficult aspects of MSR, especially those that are new to the architecture, including:
 - Methods for constructing optimal trajectories to and from Mars using electric propulsion and hybrid chemical-electric propulsion trajectories
 - Methods for co-optimizing the S/C design and trajectory – necessary for EP missions
 - Methods for constructing an MSR campaign in the face of complex and highly varied constraints and stakeholder concerns
 - New analysis for rendezvous concepts of OS detection and orbit matching
- The other topics are:
 - Ryan Woolley will discuss Low-Thrust Trajectory Bacon Plots
 - Frank Laipert will talk about Hybrid Chemical-Electric Trajectories for a MSR Orbiters
 - Eric Gustafson will discuss Mars Orbital Rendezvous Detection Methods
 - Zubin Olikara will talk about how we look at Rendezvous Orbit Matching with chemical and electric propulsion
 - Austin Nicholas will talk about both the simultaneous optimization of S/C and trajectories using Solar Electric Propulsion as well as the mission analysis for our MSR Campaign concepts

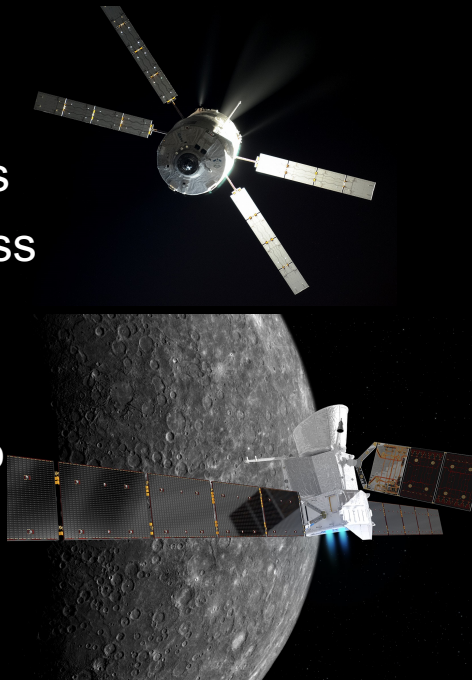
MSR Background



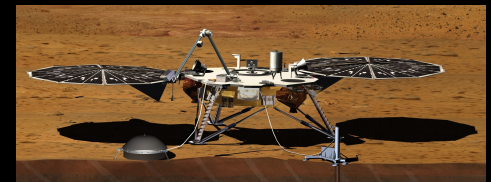
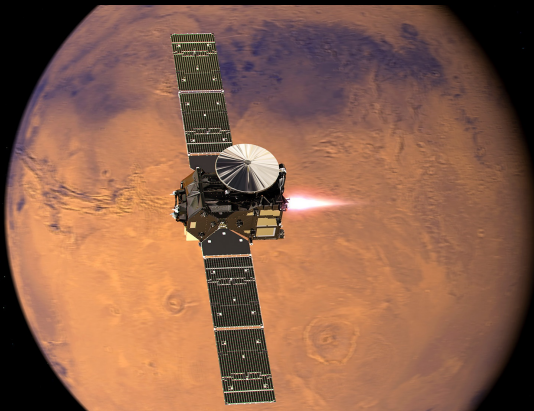
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- Post-Viking Science community stresses Mars in-situ and sample return goals and priorities
- Sally Ride Report calls for Mars Sample Return in the late 1980s.
 - Mars Rover Sample Return pre-project begun
- International Partnerships stressed in the late 1990s
 - MSR project begun with CNES partnership in 1997
- NASA/ESA partnership studies begin in the late 2000s
 - ExoMars partnership was first collaboration
- Discussions of partnerships leading to the current study started in 2017
 - Current partnership Statement of Intent, April 2018

- TGO
- Mars Express
- Venus Express
- Smart-1
- Rosetta
- BepiColombo
- ATV



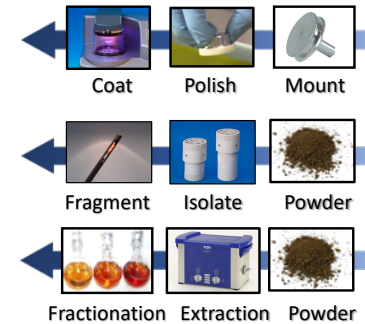
- Odyssey
- MRO
- Dawn
- Phoenix
- MSL
- MAVEN
- InSight



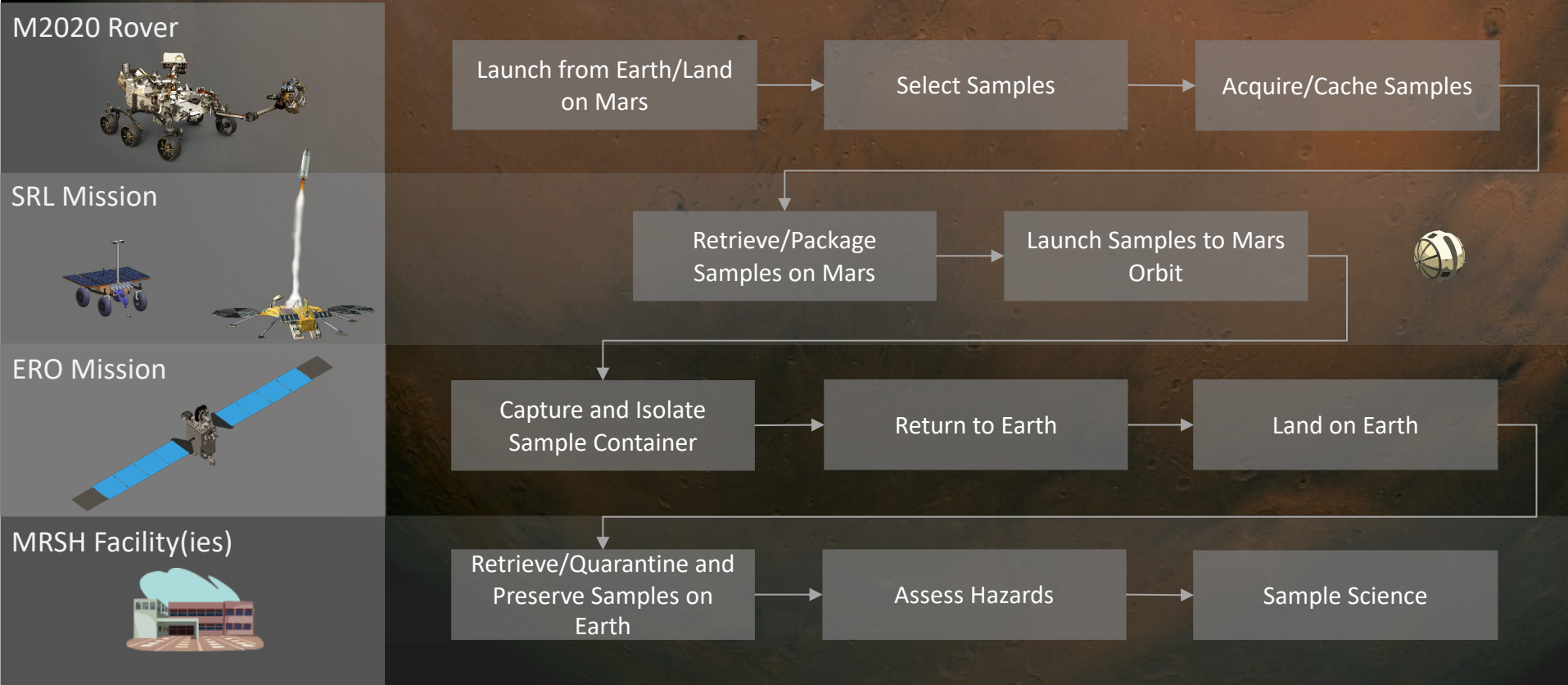
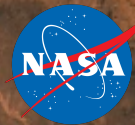


Notional MSR Campaign – Functional Objectives

- **Acquire and return to Earth** a scientifically selected set of **Mars samples** for investigation in **terrestrial laboratories**
- Select samples based on their **geologic diversity**, **astrobiological relevance**, and **geochronologic significance**
- **Establish the field context** for each sample using *in situ* **observations**
- Ensure the **scientific integrity** of the returned samples through **contamination control** (including round-trip Earth contamination and sample-to-sample cross-contamination) and **control of environments** experienced by the samples after acquisition
- **Ensure compliance with planetary protection requirements** associated with the return of Mars samples to Earth's biosphere
- Achieve a set of **sample-related scientific objectives**
 - *Life* • *Geologic environments* • *Geochronology* • *Volatiles*
 - *Planetary-scale geology* • *Environmental hazards* • *ISRU*



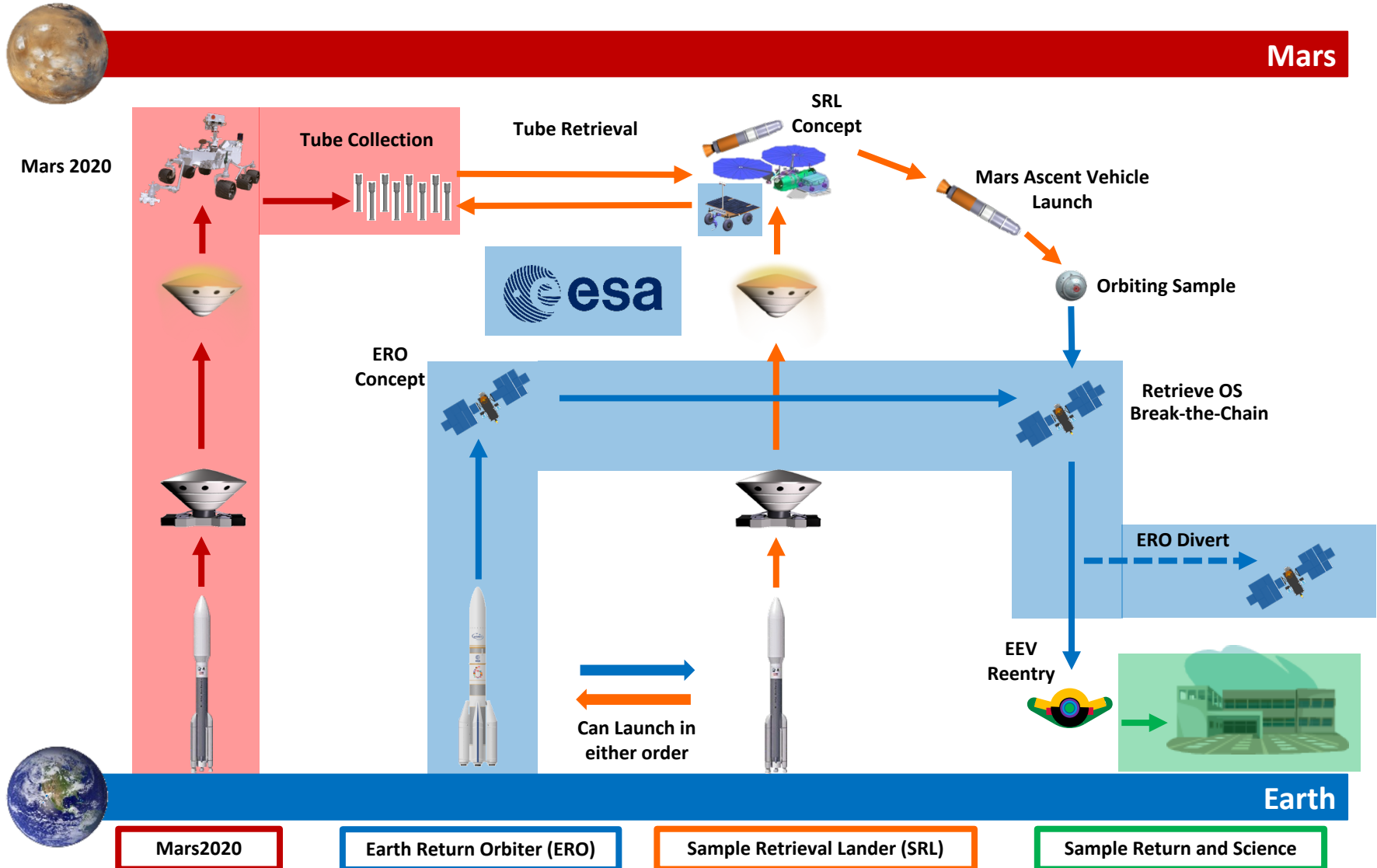
Notional MSR Campaign Architecture



Notional MSR Mission Scenario and Roles



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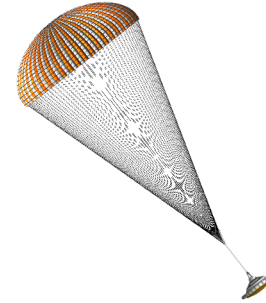
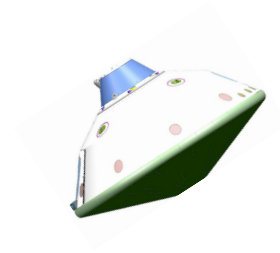




Lander Concepts Options Under Study (1/2)

Mission Objectives:

- Land on Mars
- Deploy the Sample Fetch Rover
- Maintain the lander and MAV within safe operating conditions
- Once the SFR returns with the tubes, SRL must:
 - Transfer tubes to the OS in the MPA, using the STA
 - Assemble the MPA to the MAV
 - Prepare the MAV for launch (heat and erect)
 - Launch the MAV
- Most of Entry, Descent and Landing is common to both options and based on Mars Science Laboratory



Skycrane Delivered Lander

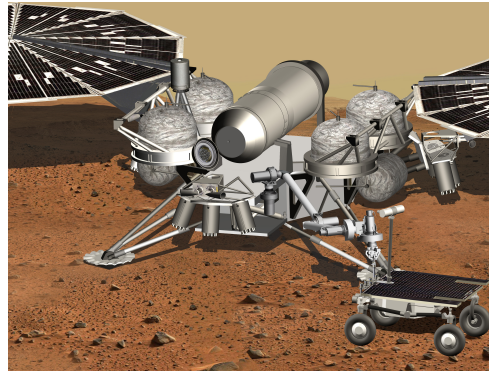


Propulsive Platform Lander

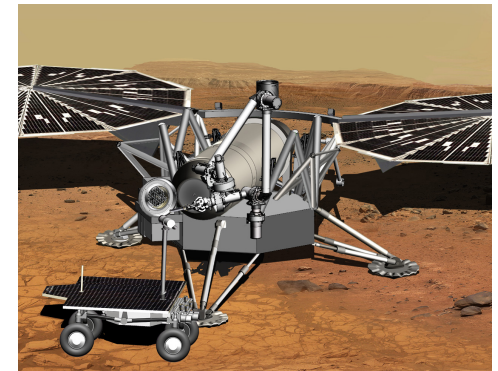
Lander Concepts Options Under Study (2/2)

- **Key Study Elements**

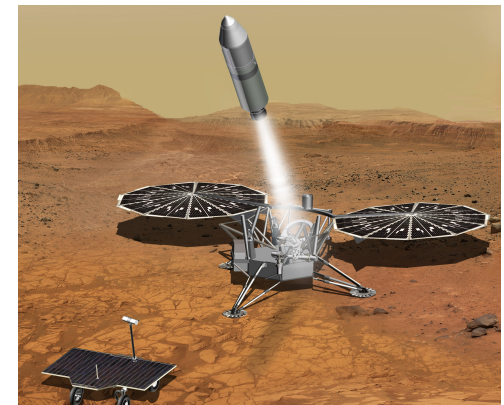
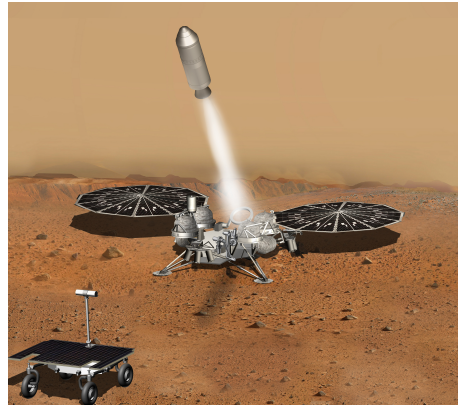
- Accommodation of MAV (400 kg) and Fetch Rover (120 kg) on lander in aeroshell, with volume and mass margins
- Solar power and thermal design for worst case environments
- MAV propulsion technology, performance (including mass), and reliability
- OS: Tube accommodation, insertion into MAV
- Planetary protection design and implementation strategies



Propulsive Platform Lander



Skycrane Delivered Lander



Fetch Rover Concept

- **Mission Objectives**

- Acquire sample tubes cached by M2020 and deliver them to the SRL

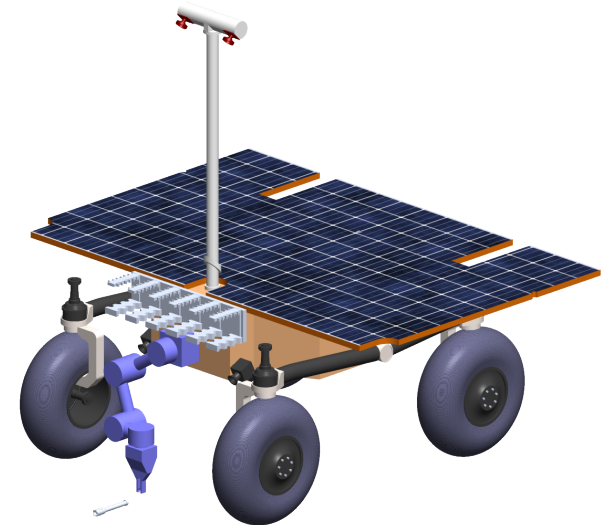
- **Key Specifications (based on NASA conceptual design)**

- Rover Mass: 120 kg (Not to Exceed)
 - Egress Mass: 25 kg (Not to Exceed)
 - Stowed Volume: $\sim 1 \text{ m}^3$

- **ESA Implementation**

- Two parallel competitive contracts: Thales Alenia Space, Italy and Airbus Defence and Space, UK
 - ExoMars 2020 heritage: triple bogie, six wheel approach
 - Technology development: Mars Robotic Exploration Program (MREP) for GNC, miniaturised avionics, as well as low temperature mechanisms and batteries.

Current NASA Fetch Rover Concept



Scale is roughly 2/3 of MER

ERO Mission Concept Profile



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